मैसर्स आर० के० बी० हरबल्स (प्रा०) लिमिटेड के विरुद्ध शिकायत

2842. श्री मोहम्मद अफजल उर्फ़ सीम अफजल : क्या स्वास्थ्य और परिवार कल्याण मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि मैसर्स आर० के० बी० हरबल्स (प्रा०) लिमिटेड, नई दिल्ली ने हिमाचल प्रदेश सरकार तथा दूरदर्शन के साथ वित्तीय धोखाधड़ी की है ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो इस संबंध में कितनी शिकायतें प्राप्त हुईं तथा सरकार ने उन पर क्या कार्यवाही की है ?

स्वास्थ्य और परिवार कल्याण मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्रीमती डी० के० तारादेवी सिद्धार्थ) : (क) जी, हां ।

(ख) मैसर्स आर० के० बी० हरबल्स (प्रा०) लिमिटेड के विरुद्ध दो शिकायतें प्राप्त हुई हैं । यह फर्म इस समय औषधों की सप्लाई करने के लिए केन्द्रीय सरकार स्वास्थ्य योजना के साथ पंजीकृत नहीं है ।

Adverse effect of pesticides on women and children

2843. SHRI B. K. HARIPRASAD: WiU the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a large number of women and children involved in farm operations are exposed to different class of pesticides resulting in miscar-rages and birth defects among women and malformations among chidren; and

(b) if so, what steps Government proposes to take in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI D. K. THARA DEVI SITVDHARTHA): (a) Due to use of pesticides in Agriculture, the occupational groups like sprayers, farmers and members of farming families are exposed to pesticides. Role of chlorinated pesticides in abortions and premature labour in general population has been reported. Further, a study of monitoring of workers occu-pationally exposed to pesticides ni grape garden of Andhra Pradesh revealed significant increase in chromatid breaks and gaps in chromosomes of peripheral bolld in workers.

(b) The Government has taken a number of steps to prevent health hazards caused due to pesticides. These are as under:—

(i) The pesticides which are safe to human being, animals and the environs ment are allowed to be registered for use in the country by the Registration Committee constituted under the Insecticides Act, 1968.

(ii) Each pesticide container is accompanied with a label and leaflet which, *inter-alia* contains the manner of handling, precautions to be taken as well as the biological/toxic nature of the compound which gives an educative information to the fanners. For the uneducated farmers a colour triangle is printed on the lables, red being for extremely toxic and green fo, slightly tovic.

(iii) Farmers are being trained in safe and udicious use of pesticidse from time to time by extension officers of the Government, different Industry's Association as well as Voluntary Agencies.

(iv) Integrated Pest Management approach is being advocated and adopted which, inter-alia, includes the need-based applicaton of pesticides on the basis of Economic Threshold Levels of pests and diseases. Considerable attention is paid to this concept which encompasses the use of cultural, mechnical and biological measures and only limited use of pesticides wherever necessary.

(v) Reporting of pesticide poisoning by the State Government functionaries under the statute which comes within the cognizance of the officers notified for